

WAR SERVICE AND GARDENING NUMBER

# THE RALLY

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## Girl Scout War Service Award

**T**HE organization Girl Scouts offers to its members a war badge for definite and sustained service to the country in the war crisis.

While this award will serve as a recognition of accomplishments, its primary purpose is to stimulate thoughtful direct effort which shall be free from the reproach of emotionalism and wasted energy, and which shall have a distinct value to those engaged in the prosecution of the war.

War service to be effective must be the kind of service that the country needs, that is, that the authorities who are responsible for winning the war, ask for. To be worth while it must also have an appreciable volume or quantity.

Every service that is suggested in the Girl Scout War Service Award is a service that the government wants, and that it has formed definite organizations to handle. Every girl who concentrates her efforts on any of the electives offered will be sure of giving the right kind of service. The more she does of it, the more she concentrates and increases her output, the more effective does she become,—the better Girl Scout and the better citizen.

Surgical dressings made, food products grown or conserved that will, by replacement, increase quantities of food available for export, labor performed that will free more highly skilled labor for war service—these are examples of real war work. It is war work for a Girl Scout to take care of a neighbor's baby while that neighbor works at the Red Cross; it is not war work if the neighbor uses the time so released for going to the matinee or to a card party.

### Quality and Quantity

A worth while quantity of service can be gained only by regular continuous effort. For a girl to give two hours today to surgical dressings, half an hour next week, and none at all the week after; for her to make a few glasses of jelly or grow a few radishes and lettuces, does not constitute war service. These are merely scraps of service that lead nowhere and that cost more in raw material and in time for supervision than they are worth.

In formulating the War Service Award the committee having it in charge has made every effort to arrive at proper quality and quantity tests for the work required. In every case officials representing the various government undertakings which are represented have been interviewed, and their advice secured as to the kinds of service that are most needed, and that the average intelligent energetic girl of Scout age can do effectively. The Red Cross requirements were passed on by a woman who has had the supervision of no less than 400 work rooms. By her advice, for example, the unit of knitting was made the raw material, and not the number of finished garments, since in that way the Girl Scouts could concentrate on the garments most needed at any particular time, and on the garments they were most skilful in making. The girl who can make first rate sweaters should not make third rate socks.

The quantity of service required has been tested by the actual accomplishments of Girl Scouts. Of course no single Girl Scout has done all the work offered, but each one of the numbers has been done at some time by some Scout. The range of activities is sufficiently wide therefore to permit every girl to find within it three things that she can do.

### Intangible Service

It is realized that there are many valuable kinds of war service which Girl Scouts may render that do not appear on the list of electives for the award. They are indeed so many and so valuable that it was only with the greatest reluctance that the committee recognized the impracticability of applying to them any definite unit of measurement that it could devise. It therefore concluded that all service not susceptible to measurement in hours or in material should be considered individually, and that captains should be urged to report such cases.

Service difficult of measurement in general terms includes the work that Girl Scouts may do in the ranks of the Women's Land Army, in the use of food substitutes in the home, in the elimination of waste, in thrift through in-

telligent self-denial, etc., etc. Every Girl Scout who, by her unswerving example, her direct effort or her inspiration and influence causes other persons to follow faithfully and consistently the voluntary rationing system approved by the United States Food Administration; who convinces them of the necessity for the intelligent use of substitutes for wheat, sugar, meats and fats; who converts them to the doctrine of the clean plate and the empty garbage pail, has rendered just as true a service to her country as the girl who devotes her time to war projects outside the home.

No less useful is the service of the girl who evolves a consistent plan for personal thrift, who sticks to it herself and inspires others to follow. She will cheerfully wear her old suit and patched shoes, not only because by so doing she conserves the slender wool and leather reserve of the country, but because the skilled labor employed in making a new suit or a new pair of shoes will, by her self-denial, and that of others like her, be released for war work.

#### Health a Consideration

In planning a definite program of War Service captains are cautioned so to plan and direct the work that it will not seriously interfere with the primary purposes found in the life of any girl at any time. These purposes are, to keep herself in good health, to obtain the rest and the recreation needed for health, to pursue her education, and to render regular normal service to her home, church and school.

#### Cooperation is Advised

The committee has made every effort to make the terms of the War Service Award as simple as possible and in line with generally established agencies from which the benefits of co-operation may be secured. Captains are urged in every case to co-operate with the local committees and local authorities to bring about proper standardization and co-ordination of work. The food conservation work can be done most effectively if it follows the plan of the local Food Administration officer. Bulletins on the various processes for canning, preserving, storing, etc., and for gardening, poultry and pig raising, should be secured immediately from the Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. In all gardening projects Girl Scouts are strongly advised to consult the Department of Agriculture and the Agricultural college of their own states.

The Canning Club tests referred to may be secured from the States Relation Service, Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. In Americanization work, if no local committee exists, all information and literature may be secured by addressing Dr. H. H. Wheaton, Director America First Campaign, Washington, D. C. The headquarters of the Women's Land Army is 32 Fifth Avenue, New York.

#### Supervision is Essential

The work for credits in Liberty Loan and War Savings Stamps should always be done in co-operation with local committees. The Women's Liberty Loan committee emphasizes the fact that the efforts of all young girls in this work must be carefully supervised by adults.

Girl Scouts must not take money for bonds. They take subscriptions, but not money. Although local conditions may create exceptional cases, it is not desirable in principle that Girl Scouts should go about the streets or in public places soliciting subscriptions for bonds or for any other purpose, no matter how worthy. Except from relatives, or immediate friends Girl Scouts should not solicit subscriptions unless they are accompanied by an adult, preferably their Girl Scout captain or lieutenant.

The booth plan of selling, where the girls may work together with their troop officers has been thoroughly tried and is strongly recommended. Cincinnati Girl Scouts working in booths secured subscriptions to bonds of the Second Liberty Loan amounting to \$50,000. Philadelphia Girl Scouts, using old Red Cross booths redecorated, sold more than \$16,000 worth of War Savings Stamps in six months.

#### Terms of Award

The Girl Scout War Service Badge will be awarded by the committee on the recommendation of the local council or of the troop captain where no local council exists. This recommendation must be accompanied by satisfactory written evidence that the required work has been done. A separate record should be kept for each point, this record to be attested by the captain and by one other responsible person. In points which require the keeping of a time card this time card should be attested by the official in charge of the work room or enterprise.

Past accomplishments that satisfy all requirements will be considered by the committee.

The Girl Scout War Service Badge is similar to the War Service Badge of the Canadian Girl Guides. It is enameled in red, white and blue, and bears the tenderfoot emblem, the motto and the words "War Service." The price is twenty-five cents.

### War Service Award

To receive the badge a Girl Scout must have to her credit a total of three points selected from the following list. The value in points of each activity is indicated:

#### Red Cross—

1. Knit two pounds of wool. (One point.) N.B.—All knitted garments must comply with Red Cross standards.
2. Thirty hours supervised service in a Red Cross work room. A time card must be kept, and the service accomplished within a period of not more than eleven weeks. (One point.)

#### Food Production—

3. Gardening. A garden occupying not less than 250 square feet of land and yielding one or more varieties of produce. Read "Vegetable Gardening," by Ralph L. Watts, Orange Judd Co. Points. The garden project will be credited according to the profit that is made over and above all money expended. Careful and de-

tailed accounts must be kept and complete memoranda submitted. If the garden yields a profit equal to at least three cents per square foot over all expenses, three points will be given; if the profit equals at least two cents per square foot over all expenses, two points; if it equals at least one cent per square foot over all expenses, one point will be given.

N.B.—Girl Scouts are urged to consult with local professional gardeners, and to take their advice in specializing on crops which may be readily and profitably marketed in their locality.

4. Thirty hours service in any local gardening project organized and supervised as a part of the United States School War Garden Army. Time card or record book to be kept. (One point.)
5. Poultry Raising. The hatching and rearing of one brood of chickens (a setting of fifteen eggs) to an age of six months. Read "Poultry Husbandry and Management," James Dryden, Orange Judd Co. (One point.)
6. Pig Raising. The care and feeding of one pig for a period of six months, the pig to be not more than ten weeks old when the project is started. Read "Productive Swine Husbandry," George L. Day, J. B. Lippincott Co. (One point.)

#### Food Conservation—

7. Thirty hours service in community kitchen or in any authorized community enterprise for the preservation of food and the elimination of waste. Time card to be kept and service to be accomplished within a period of not more than eleven weeks. (One point.)
8. Food Conservation. (One point.)  
N.B.—This point may be gained by any combination of the items listed below. In each case memoranda must be presented showing cost of materials used, including containers, and time required.
  1. Canning fifty quarts. (One-half point.)
  2. Preserving fifty containers, jam or jelly. (One-half point.)
  3. Preserving twenty-five pounds of vegetables by salting, fermenting or pickling. (One-half point.)
  4. Fifty pints of finished relishes, pickles, etc. (One-half point.)
  5. Trenching or storing five bushels fruit or vegetables. (One-fourth point.)
  6. Packing and storing fifty pounds of butter. (One-fourth point.)
  7. Preserving fifty dozen eggs. (One-fourth point.)
  8. Gathering and storing five bushels nuts. (One-fourth point.)

#### Thrift—

9. Secure subscriptions for ten Liberty Bonds in ten homes. (One point.)
10. Thirty hours service under direction of Women's Liberty Loan Committee. (One point.)

11. Earn War Saving Stamps. (More than fourteen years of age, two stamps; under fourteen, one stamp.) (One point.)
12. Secure subscriptions for twenty-five War Savings Stamps or not less than 400 Thrift stamps. (One point.)

#### Labor Replacement—

13. Thirty hours service in the care of young children in the home, day nursery, playground, etc., by which the time of an adult is released for war work. A time card to be kept and the service accomplished within eleven weeks. (One point.)
14. Not less than 200 hours full time paid service on a business basis for any industry or business directly connected with the war. (Three points.)

#### Americanization—

15. Notable service in the interests of the America First campaign, in teaching English to foreign women or girls, such service to be attested by a member of the local America First Committee or by some adult engaged in the work. (One point.)

#### Other Notable Service—

16. Any notable piece of war service not susceptible to classification in the above groups, on the individual merits of which the committee will pass.

N.B.—The committee will add additional points to the above as occasion arises.

## Troop Award

Badge will be conferred upon a troop when it has achieved three points selected from the following list, and in addition is able to show evidence satisfactory to the committee, of co-operation with and sustained service to official agencies for war work; for instance, distribution of Food Administration literature, service to Women's Liberty Loan Committee, participation in community patriotic demonstrations, etc., etc.

#### Red Cross—

1. The equivalent of twenty hours supervised service for each girl in the troop in a Red Cross Work room. (For instance, sixteen girls, 320 hours, etc.) (One point.)
2. Knitted garments equivalent to two pounds of wool for each girl in the troop. (One point.)

#### Food Production—

3. Troop garden. A garden occupying not less than 160 square feet of land for each girl in the troop and yielding one or more varieties of produce. Points. This project will be credited according to the profit that is made over, and above all money expended. Careful and detailed accounts must be kept and complete memoranda submitted. If the garden yields a profit of at least two cents per square foot three points will be given; if the

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## Concentration in War Service

Concentration, co-operation, conservation and courage—these are the attributes that during the long years of the war have helped the Girl Guides and the women of England to reach the high standard of service which they now have. Of these four thoughts, as crisp as a code message, that England has sent to us by Mrs. Peat, the wife of cheery "Private Peat," the one that you need to take to heart, Girl Scout, is concentration.

You did not need to learn co-operation—it is the first lesson of scouting—and you have proved this in your work with the Red Cross, the Liberty Bond and Thrift Stamp committees, and with many other national organizations. You did not need to search for courage and enthusiasm, you had a good measure of that already, and it will grow braver and stronger as the need for it grows greater and greater. You did not need to be urged to conserve, you readily agreed to practice conservation as a part of your life, a daily sacrifice.

What you most need to bear in mind at this time is concentration.

The War Service Award has been outlined according to the needs of the government. If you want to do effective work you will study and consider this program very carefully. You will choose for yourself that work which you can best do. You will concentrate on it, and you will lay aside activities that are not distinctly a part of the war emergency pro-

gram. Take for instance, the making of trench candles and the knitting of afghans. On account of the exigencies of shipping the Red Cross is obliged to refuse these articles for shipment across the water. The trench candles are not needed by our soldiers in America. While the afghans can be used in the base hospitals here, the greater need is for knitted garments for our soldiers and sailors to wear.

Study the War Service program and plan your efforts accordingly. There is something in it for each one of you—there is something in it for each one of your troops. Choose your work as you would choose your vocation and concentrate, concentrate, concentrate. It will make you a real factor in the mighty task of winning the war.

## Plan for Troop Gardens

The gardening plans of the Washington Girl Scouts are sure to be suggestive and helpful to troops planning similar projects. Mrs. Herbert Hoover has evolved the plan, and it is being worked out on the basis of the war emergency. Each troop in Washington is to have a garden managed as a business enterprise. Local Headquarters shares on a fifty per cent basis in all expenses, and takes the same percentage of all profits; that is, the troop has half, and Local Headquarters half of all that is earned.

Local Headquarters has blocked off a map of the city showing the location of each troop and of its garden. Each garden is so located as to be within walking distance for the members of the troops that are working it. Each girl will be assigned one or two rows to plant and to care for.

The local director, Mrs. Edna Mary Colman, has secured valuable co-operation from the City Garden Association, the Department of Agriculture and other agencies through which the plowing, fertilizing, seeding and supervision of the whole project will be handled.

Dr. Abby Porter Leland, National Director, spoke in Atlantic City recently before the Department of Superintendence of the National Education Association, and before the National Congress of Mother and Parent Teacher Associations. Her subject on the former occasion was "Scouting Education for Girls," and on the latter, "Scouting for Girls in Peace and War." She spoke also at a breakfast given by the National Council of Executive and Administrative Women in Education.

Mr. Arthur S. Somers, the president of the New York City Board of Education has become a member of the Executive Board, National Headquarters. New members of the National Council include Mr. Joseph H. Choate, Jr., Reverend Percy Gordon, Mrs. Douglas Robinson and Mrs. Frank Weld of New York, Mrs. Richard M. Colgate of West Orange, N. J., and Mrs. Richard Wainwright of Washington, D. C.



# Girl Scouts and Gardens

By Jean Broadhurst, Columbia University.

By this time every Girl Scout knows that she can help her country by raising vegetables. But many a Girl Scout knows people—some of them grown people—who tried last year and failed. Does that mean that the Girl Scouts should not try this year?

No. It means that they should first find out why other people failed, for there were many beginners who did succeed. One boy planted potatoes on a lot 100 feet square, and cleared enough for a \$50 Liberty Bond. Many others raised vegetables on vacant city lots which could not be purchased at market prices for less than \$80, \$90, \$100 and even \$125 per lot. Then why did so many people fail? Five reasons are given below. Do any of them explain failures that you happen to know about?

First: Some people started with poor seeds. The demand for seeds was so great that most of the reliable seed houses were soon sold out, and careless people bought "any old seeds from anywhere." This was especially true of "seed potatoes," which, of course, aren't seeds at all—merely potatoes. Mold-diseased, scabby potatoes from ordinary grocery shops were put into the ground—molds and all—and a diseased crop was the natural result. Too few people tested their seeds. They bought them too late, they felt, to wait three or four days to test them, and so they planted them, and waited one or two weeks before they felt sure the seeds were not coming up; it was then too late to buy other seeds and sometimes too late to plant a second lot of seeds.

Second: Many people knew nothing at all about the pests that weaken or kill plants, such as molds and insects. Sprays were often applied too late to be of any real help. In many cases the plants were badly wilted and shrivelled or had most of their leaves eaten away before the owner realized what had happened. It was then "too late to call a doctor." Before any crop is planted, find out what its mold and insect enemies are and how to conquer them. If any crop is likely to be badly diseased in your locality, choose something else to plant.

Third: In a great many cases the soil was too poor to make a crop possible. Vacant lots where even weeds wouldn't grow were tried by some people. Soil that lacks the right kind of food, lots that are all ashes and tin cans, soil that is too tightly packed, will not produce good crops. Tightly packed soil may be too hard for the roots to penetrate; it usually holds less air than roots need. Fertilizer is probably needed in every plot of ground you will be allowed to use this summer. In Newark an unusually good vacant lot association bought fertilizer by the carload and sold it in small packages (5 or 10 pounds), so that people could buy easily just what they needed.

Fourth: Water was either insufficient or applied improperly. No food from the soil can be used by plants, unless it is first dissolved.

These minerals dissolve very slowly, so a plant must take in a lot of water to get all the lime and sulphur, etc., it needs. Plants need about four hundred times as much water as the weight of the final dry crop. Many gardens did not have enough water.

Pouring water over the top of the ground where it dries rapidly, making a hard crust, is a poor way of watering. The crust deprives the roots of air as well as water. If it is necessary to sprinkle, do it with a fine spray and have the soil surfaces "cultivated" or broken up so the water will soak in.

Fifth: What most gardens needed most was not food or water, but care. City people have laughed at the farmers for so many years, considering them "Rubes" and "country-jays," that they have grown to feel that farmers are necessarily ignorant in every way, and that farming is something that anybody can do. One has only to stick the seeds into the ground. Many of the green gardeners last summer didn't even do that properly. I know one woman who planted the whole ear of corn—cob and all—in one spot. And I know a man who planted his beans three times over, because they "came up wrong"; each time he pushed them down into the ground, breaking them of course, and then planted new ones, not knowing why they failed to grow.

Not only does it take knowledge to raise a crop, but it takes care and patience. Every inch of the garden should be cultivated with a hoe or sharp stick at least once a week as long as one has room to work between the plants. The soil must be kept light and porous—full of air spaces. Cultivating the soil keeps the deeper soil waters moving up through the soil. If the top layer is finely pulverized, the water will not pass out from the soil very rapidly, and most of it will be absorbed by the roots, instead.

Many people started in with great enthusiasm, but they gardened as they did other things—"when they felt like it," or "by spells." Company, a backache,—anything was a good excuse; and when the owner felt like working, it probably rained, or looked too much like rain to bother changing one's clothes for garden work. As interest waned, or the owner realized he had taken too large a plot, he often tried to hire someone to cultivate his garden, and got someone who knew even less than he did!

Now, what must you do, if your garden is to be a success?

First: Don't make the mistakes we've just talked about. Read some good book on agriculture this spring before plowing and planting. Dugger's Agriculture for Southern Schools (published by Macmillan, New York), is a very good book for a beginner, whether she starts with a window box, a city lot, or a real country garden.

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# "Save Food and Serve Humanity"

*Written for THE RALLY by Mary Stevick, at the request of Mrs. Herbert Hoover.*

Girl Scouts you must help to win the war. You are young but your work can be telling and effective. If you are obedient to your country's call to save food—and for every good Scout an "if" does not exist in relation to obedience—you are contributing immediately and directly to the winning of the war through personal sacrifice and personal service.

You have stopped making fudge; you do not buy candy; you use only one spoonful of sugar on your porridge in the morning; you no longer buy lemonades or ice cream sodas. This is sometimes a pretty hard sacrifice, but remember that there are still left syrup, and molasses, and even a little maple sugar!

Being a good Girl Scout you hardly ever take white bread—never, if there is corn, or rye, or barley, or oatmeal on the table or any other kind instead of wheat. Better still you take an extra potato or two and don't take any bread at all. Potatoes have the same food value and ever so much more patriotic value. You must never forget that the little children in France and Italy and Belgium who are really hungry, will have enough to eat if each one of us saves one pound of flour per week. Their fathers and brothers can fight harder too, if they know that we are helping to take care of their little ones at home.

Of course you are saving fats and meats in many ways, and are reminding mother to save carefully all the meat drippings to use for fat instead of buying more lard or butter. We can have fish and poultry when they are not too expensive, and many of us can start little chicken yards of our own. And we can suggest using more milk, and eggs, and cheese in place of meat. They do not make army rations, and you and I must provide meat for the men in the trenches. Being girls, we are able to help in the kitchen, or to watch these things in the household, and so the responsibility rests largely upon our shoulders. If each Girl Scout stands guard, in her own home, to help mother see that the directions given by our government are thoroughly understood and carried out, she is answering her country's call to duty as completely as though she had enlisted.

Every one of us whose fathers and brothers and cousins are actually going or have gone to the front, feel that we, too, want to "do something." We want to, and we can. We can go out into the world and help whip the Germans, by selling Liberty Bonds and Thrift Stamps, by working for Red Cross, planting gardens, canning the produce, working for the war orphans and cripples and helping to fill the place of some man who has been called away. All of these things are important, but none of them is more important than another which we can be doing at the same time. And

that is helping to keep our own and our allies' armies and the people behind them fed. It is much harder to break old habits and stop doing little things than to take up something new and do something big. But we can do it, and we must do it.

Do you remember the story of a little ten-year-old boy's help, when all the great, strong men of a fishing village were launching a boat? It would not move as they all pushed, and they laughed as he ran down the beach and put his little shoulder to the hull. And then to their surprise the boat started gently across the sands. Our strength compared to that of the nation is like the strength of the boy and the men. What one Girl Scout can save in a week of wheat, and fat, and meat is very little, perhaps only enough to make one meal for a French or Belgian or English child, or half a meal for one of our soldiers. But what her entire family could save, if she could induce them to co-operate, might keep him one-half a week. And what can be done by all the Girl Scouts of the United States, and all the members of all their families, and all the friends whom they can influence will be enough to feed an army!

Our army is at the front. We must be its soldiers behind the lines!

## Courses in Gardening

Girl Scout leaders in the vicinity of New York who are contemplating gardening projects as a part of their troops' war work are advised to inform themselves on the courses in gardening to be given this spring at the New York Botanical Gardens. A course of four lectures on home gardening will be given Saturday mornings in April at 10:30 o'clock. The same course will be repeated on Tuesdays during May and June at 3:00 P. M. The lectures, the fee for which is \$5.00, will include the study of preparation of the soil, planting and cultivation of crops, food values, etc., etc.

A course in gardening, intended chiefly for teachers of school gardening will be given from April 1 to May 10, and will be repeated from May 6 to June 14. This course will be for three hours a day, five days a week, and will include lectures, shop work, and practical gardening. The fee is \$25.00.

All information may be obtained from Henry Griscom Parsons, Supervisor Gardening Instruction, The Mansion, N. Y. Botanical Gardens, Bronx Park, N. Y.

National Headquarters announces two fellowships of \$500 each for graduate study available for the academic year 1918-19; one at Teachers' College, and one at New York University. Applications should be made not later than May 1.

## News of the Liberty Loan

The new Liberty Loan is announced. On April 6 will begin the great campaign for funds for the prosecution of the war that will give every American, man and woman, girl and boy, a chance to do a direct service for the country second only in value to that of the man in the trenches.

Girl Scouts have already pledged their biggest and best effort to this great home drive, an effort that, as Mrs. Woodrow Wilson said will measure up to "the high standard they have set for themselves in patriotism and service."

This organization is affiliated with the Women's Liberty Loan Committee, a committee, which the Secretary of the Treasury, has said was responsible for the placing of about one-fourth of the last loan, a sum that approximated \$1,400,000,000. The Women's Committee in the coming campaign will be a part of the men's committee, co-operating with it more closely, and with greatly increased opportunities for effective work.

Girl Scout local councils and captains who have not already done so are urged to get in touch immediately with their local Liberty Loan Committee, so that their plans may be fully organized and co-ordinated before the campaign actually begins.

At a meeting of some forty representatives of national women's organizations held last month in New York, the report of the work of Girl Scouts presented by Mrs. Arthur Osgood Choate was enthusiastically applauded, and their program for further effort fully endorsed. The desirability of close co-operation with official agencies was emphasized, also the facts that young people, girls or boys of scouting age must accept subscriptions only, never money, and that Girl Scouts should never solicit subscriptions unless accompanied by an adult.

THE RALLY is happy to announce additional flag awards offered by chairmen of the Women's Liberty Loan Committee for the various Federal Reserve districts. Mrs. Woodrow Wilson's flag for the troop in the United States doing the best work was of course announced last month, as were also the flags offered by Mrs. John T. Pratt of the Second District, and Mrs. F. L. Higginson of the First District to the troops selling the most bonds in those districts. Other chairmen offering flags are Mrs. Florence J. Wade of St. Louis, for the Eighth District; Miss Grace Dixon of Chicago, for the Seventh District; Mrs. George W. Fuller of Kansas City for the Tenth District and Mrs. C. A. Severance of St. Paul for the Ninth District. Mrs. Courtlandt Barnes of New York City has offered a flag for the New York Girl Scouts giving the best service to her committee. Announcement of additional flags will be made as the campaign progresses.

To win one of these flags will be a signal honor for a troop, representing as it will a real and definite service to the country. THE RALLY believes that Girl Scouts will make a notable record in this great campaign. It wishes them success, not only for their own sakes, but for the sake of the great and solemn cause which they serve.

## Rare Opportunity for Captains

Here is a chance for fifty-two Girl Scout captains to enjoy a rare and interesting experience, and to gain a training invaluable to them as scout captains and as citizens. As THE RALLY went to press the following telegram was received at National Headquarters from Elizabeth E. Poe, chairman of the National Service School of Washington, D. C.:

"I am going to raise scholarship for a whole company of Girl Scout captains for this year's National Service School. That means fifty-two scholarships and you distribute them for us. Should advise you to select one Girl Scout captain from fifty-two cities as that will make the interest more widespread and do more good. The Girl Scout captains can wear their own uniforms which will make their company distinctive. Scholarship will cover all expenses at camp, but Girl Scout organizations will have to send them to Washington. Camp opens April 22. Continues to May 11. We feel this company will do great good for our common cause. Scholarships must go to Girl Scout captains in active service."

The site of the National Service School encampment is on Conduit Road, District of Columbia. Provision is made for 250 women. The school is housed in tents and is conducted along military lines. The encampment this year will devote its energies to the practical training of American women in farming, increased food production, reconstruction trades and crafts, and labor replacement in such simple lines as typewriting, telegraphing, telephone operating, etc.

National Headquarters welcomes this opportunity for Captains with the greatest enthusiasm, and with keen appreciation of the advantage it means to these fortunate enough to embrace it. Women who have had the benefit of the previous encampments have come from them invigorated in mind and body, brimming with new ideas and filled with renewed zest for work and interest in living. The fifty-two Captains who will have the honor and privilege of representing Girl Scouts at this encampment will gain, in addition to increased equipment for leadership and enriched resources for living, a spirit of nationalism and co-operation for patriotic endeavor from which the whole organization will benefit.

Full announcement of all arrangements about these scholarships will be made in the April RALLY. Meantime all captains who are interested are urged to communicate immediately with Headquarters, which will keep them fully informed of the progress of the matter.

# "How Does Your Garden Grow?"

By EDNA M. COLMAN  
Local Director, District of Columbia.

To this famous question which is asked by all rising childhood of "Mary, Mary, quite contrary," there is attached today a meaning quite different from the significance given to it by the author of the old nursery rhyme.

When one inquires now of one of our numerous Marys how her garden is getting along, the young lady knows that it is a serious question, for gardening today is an important war-time work, a direct contribution to the winning of the war.

I assert with entire confidence that there is no branch of war service in which Girl Scouts can engage where their work will count for more than in food production. The planting of small "War gardens" in the back yards of their homes or on vacant lots nearby, is, for many reasons one of the most practical and most useful patriotic acts that a Girl Scout, anxious to help her country, can perform. A small amount of time and labor each day will be repaid many times over by the benefits derived from this labor of love.

Last year a good start was made in "war gardening." This year at least two gardens must grow where one grew before.

Here are two reasons why all Girl Scouts who possibly can do so should plant a garden this spring and summer:

1. To raise an appreciable amount of food to add to the nation's supply for its soldiers and people and the soldiers and people of our allies.

2. To encourage others to get into their back yards and raise a crop of beans and potatoes and tomatoes and other vegetables. Thus will we use our hoes as well as our guns in fighting the foe of freedom and democracy.

"Food will win the war," it is said. Certainly much is dependent on food. Agriculture is the foundation upon which all else rests. The great essential this year is that absolutely the greatest amount of food possible be produced in the United States. Victory depends on food. It is necessary, therefore, that every resource be made use of to increase the supply. Conservation—the saving of food—is demanded of every one of us; but along with conservation must come increased production.

In this the home garden can play an important part for the following reasons:

1. Labor on the farms was very short last year and this year may be critical owing to the fact that the draft has taken so many farmers' sons and helpers. The raising of food at home right by the kitchen door will lift some of the burden from the farmer's shoulders. If he is not obliged to raise so much vegetable produce for the city tables, he will be able to grow more of the wheat and other staple products which can be shipped abroad to feed our soldiers and allies. Remember that every vegetable you raise means that much saved toward the food supply of your

brave fathers and brothers and cousins and uncles who are "over there."

2. It may seem like such a little "bit" to plant a small garden that you will say it is not worth while. But if you do what you can, it's not your "bit." It's your "all." And that should be the goal of every worker. Remember it's the little pennies which Uncle Sam collects one at a time at moving picture houses all over the country which run into tens of thousands of dollars every day. Little Thrift Stamps, selling at only 25 cents apiece, count up into the millions of dollars. Every home garden is worth while, for the total from all the home gardens makes a vast sum. Even a small plot, if every foot of ground is cultivated intensively and made to work all the time, can be made to raise a considerable quantity. On a patch no larger than 30 by 40 feet enough nice fresh vegetables can be grown to keep the family table supplied all summer long.

To the women and girls of America the nation looks as never before for help. In previous wars women did not play a very important part except as nurses. But today they are called on for service everywhere. They are near the fighting line. England has thousands of women over in France doing work which formerly would have been done by men. Women, many of them very young, make munitions and drive ambulances. Prominent officials have declared that the war could not be won without them.

We are proud of the record of Miss Helen Margaret Tew, of Washington, D. C., who last year won the first cash prize of \$5.00, and the first National Certificate of Merit presented by the War Food Garden Commission for excellence in canning and drying vegetables and fruit raised in a war garden. She was the first person in the United States to be thus honored, and Girl Scouts all over the country may take pride in the fact that it was one of their own members who took the lead in this important work. Here is what she says in an appeal for others to enlist in this branch of the service:

"Girl Scouts of the country have a fine opportunity to aid their country by planting war gardens this spring. You can do no greater service to your country than to help produce food and then follow that by helping to save it. I never enjoyed anything quite so much as the work in food conservation, but of course we must produce food before we can preserve it. Every Girl Scout in the country should write to me in care of the War Food Garden Commission, Maryland Building, Washington, D. C., and ask for a 'Food Garden Primer.' It will be sent free for a stamp. Then you should organize the troop for a garden planting campaign or join some community campaign in a body. Our soldiers must have food; so let each of us be a Soldier of the Soil and help win the war."



## News from the Field

The Field Committee requests all Girl Scout Local Councils, Captains, and other workers who have affected definite and direct co-operation with Government agencies, such as the Department of Agriculture, the Food Administration, etc., etc., to send to Headquarters a detailed report of the results of such co-operation.

Two new National Field Captains have been added to the Headquarters staff to help spread the gospel of scouting for girls. They are Miss Cora Neal of Washington, D. C., and Miss Laura Holland of Buffalo, N. Y. Both are experienced in Girl Scout work, and are well known in the organization. Miss Neal was Executive Secretary of the Girl Scouts when the National Headquarters were in Washington. She has since been Field Secretary of the Southern Industrial Association, an experience which adds greatly to her equipment for extending Girl Scouts in the Southern states. Miss Holland has been Local Director in Buffalo, and comes to the National work splendidly trained. She will for the present devote herself to the organization of Local Councils in New York State.

Miss Edith Valet, National Field Captain, has left for the West to organize and extend Girl Scouts in four cities adjacent to great army training camps, Salt Lake City, San Diego, Tacoma and San Francisco. While not directly affiliated with the Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A., this phase of Girl Scout activity has the full sympathy and support of leaders in both organizations, and is being encouraged by them.

## Rally Article Wins Notice

"Why We Are at War," the article by Mrs. Josephine Daskam Bacon, which appeared in the February RALLY has been received with so much interest and enthusiasm that it is evident that it is filling its place in the patriotic war work of the country, by giving girls and boys a clear understanding of our moral obligation in entering the war. It has met with hearty response from men and women standing high in public life, from organizations of national scope, and from educators. Here is a typically frank comment of Colonel Roosevelt's: "That's a capital story by Josephine Daskam Bacon. It is admirable from every standpoint, and I wish it could be read in every schoolroom in the United States." The following expression from Mrs. Frances F. Cleveland Preston, Secretary of the Committee on Patriotism of the National Security League, is no less appreciative: "I have received the article by Mrs. Josephine Daskam Bacon published in your Girl Scout RALLY, and thank you very much for it. It seems to me it ought to be placed before every child of suitable age in this country." The National Security League has ordered five thousand copies for distribution and the Com-

mittee on Public Information has used hundreds of copies and could have used more had they been available. Dr. William Rabenort, of P. S. 55, the Bronx, New York, has also shown his opinion of the article by securing a thousand copies from Headquarters to be used for educational purposes.

## Work of Committee on Standards

The Committee on Standards announces that the following insignia shall henceforth be used for officers: Commissioner, gray shoulder cord; deputy commissioner, gray shoulder cord, with black and gray fringe and black center; assistant commissioner, black shoulder cord with gray and black fringe and knot; councillors, black and gray shoulder cord; captains, black and gold shoulder cord and hat cord; lieutenants, black and gold hat cord.

The insignia, heretofore known as the Senior Patrol Leader's Chevron shall henceforth be used as Ex-Patrol Leader's Chevron.

The committee decided that in the First Class Scout requirements the fifty cents savings, instead of being deposited in a savings bank might be invested in Thrift Stamps, or applied toward War Saving Stamps or Liberty Bonds.

## A Record for Thrift Stamps

Philadelphia Girl Scouts have made a record in the Thrift Stamp campaign. During the last six weeks they have sold Thrift Stamps amounting to \$16,950. Two prizes, an individual and a troop prize, were awarded for this splendid work. The individual prize, a Baby Bond, given by Lieutenant Sutton of the British army, was won by Juliet Kind, Troop No. 17, who sold stamps to the amount of \$1,751.25. The troop prize, a silver cup, presented by Miss Harriet Deaver, was awarded to Troop No. 17, which brought in \$7,193.50 from the sale of stamps. Two other prizes have been offered and the Philadelphia girls have set out to break their own record.

## Honors for Miss Hough

Miss Dorris Hough, Captain of White Rose Troop, New Bedford, Mass., and Girl Scout Fellow at Johns Hopkins University, has been appointed by P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education, as Special Collaborator on the gardening project of the Bureau of Education, The United States School War Garden Army.

The equipment department requests captains and other officers ordering equipment to use postal orders and checks when the amount of the order exceeds one dollar. Stamps are entirely practical for amounts less than one dollar, but for the larger sums they entail an amount of detail work in handling which, with the increased volume of business at Headquarters, it is desirable to avoid.

## Thank You!

National Headquarters has received its first contribution from Girl Scouts for the extension of scouting. Oak Troop No. 2, Brookline, Mass., has sent in \$5.00, which amount was part of \$131.00 which it earned at its first entertainment. It is significant that this troop shared first earnings with Headquarters. Ian Hay's play, "The Crimson Cocoon," was acted by six Scouts. The girls were assisted by a Boy Scout fife and drum corps. Thirty girls are in training for a fife, drum and bugle corps. Once a month the troop has a community drill with an officer.

## A Garden Contest

A suggestion for Girl Scouts comes from a competition for small gardens held last summer in New Jersey by a unit of the Council of National Defense. A garden club was formed and prizes offered for the best garden of twelve rows each, each row determined by the rules of the contest. Once a month each garden was visited by two members of the garden club, accompanied by a professional gardener, for the purpose of advice and helpful co-operation. All the common vegetables were included, and a great deal of valuable experience was acquired by the participants, together with considerable produce for market and table.

## Washington Offers Hospitality

The Washington Council, through the chairman of its War Emergency Committee, Mrs. Herbert Hoover, has issued to all Girl Scouts a most cordial and timely invitation to associate themselves with their sister Girl Scouts in Washington, should occasion take them to that busy, crowded city.

The thoughtfulness of Mrs. Hoover and her committee in planning and instituting this service of friendliness to the Girl Scouts of the country is truly scoutlike, and is an inspiring demonstration of the fourth law, "A Girl Scout is a friend to all, and a sister to every other Girl Scout."

Mrs. Hoover's letter follows:

"The Girl Scout organization of Washington, D. C., asks your co-operation in behalf of the large number of young girls and women who are here or coming here to work in Government service. We wish to help them in their loneliness by extending the Scout greeting and welcoming them in our membership while they are here.

"Hence we are writing to ask all Girl Scout Captains in the country to gather the names of the Scouts from their Troops, who either are here or are coming here, and to send them to Mrs. H. A. Coleman, Director Girl Scout Activities in Washington, 215 Woodward Building, 15th and H Streets, N. W.

"If this plan is carried out properly every Girl Scout who comes to the Capital City will

have friends ready to help her find the right kind of lodgings, and she will be able to enter into one of the active Scout Troops and continue her Scout training, besides making safe and congenial acquaintances. If she is old enough to be Lieutenant or Captain, she may aid in this capacity or enter the training class for Captains at the Headquarters.

"Send on any names that you may have at the earliest opportunity."

Sincerely yours,

LOU HENRY HOOVER.

## Girl Scouts and Gardens

(Continued from Page 5)

Second: Be willing to start in on a small scale. If it is your first venture, take a *small* piece of ground, even as small as ten or fifteen feet square, and work it thoroughly, keeping something growing in every spot all through the season. Or, what will be harder, be willing to help work the home garden without the responsibility and the glory of ownership. If you're doing it to help your country, every pound raised will save that much other food. In some districts, Girl Scouts could not do a more helpful thing than form weeding and cultivating squads for work in other gardens.

Third: If you do plant gardens of your own, form first an advisory board for your district. Your scout leader will be one member, of course. A second member should be a farmer or market gardener of practical experience. A third should be a city official, or person of executive ability, who could manage the purchasing of tools and secure and organize teams for plowing the lots.

Fourth: Don't expect too much. Gardens do yield one to ten times the money spent for fertilizer, seeds, etc. Or, to put it another way, gardens yield a return of one to nine cents per square foot. Will yours be a one-cent garden or a nine-cent one? It depends not only upon your skill and energy, but your common sense. Let me illustrate this by describing a garden sixty feet by one hundred near my house. It had in it potatoes and lettuce, a lettuce plant between each potato plant. The owner worked it constantly, but did not spray, and his potatoes died—all of them. He still had his lettuce, of course, hundreds of plants. But all his neighbors had lettuce beds, and here were all these lettuce plants, taking his time and care, but representing no profit in money; he could not eat them, give them away, nor keep them for later use.

Fifth: Don't count too much on selling your crop. By the time beginners have crops to harvest, everyone else will, too; and the market price will be quite low. But if you eat all you raise, you save other foods, and are performing a patriotic duty just as truly as if you sold it to someone else to eat. It is almost like eating your cake and having it, for you may eat your whole crop and yet save that much for your country's needs.

## New Federation Plans Rally

Realizing the value of co-operation, the Girl Scout Local Councils of northeastern Massachusetts, have formed a body known as the Northeastern Federation of Girl Scout Councils. Mrs. Carl P. Dennett has been elected commissioner. Officers assisting her are: Mrs. S. H. Roblin, Miss Elizabeth Westgate, Mrs. Arthur W. Hartt, Mrs. James J. Storrow, Miss Emma R. Hall, Mrs. Mary Haggett, Mrs. A. J. Mundy and Mrs. Edward F. Stevens. Discussions held at the meetings of the Federation, to which all Council members and captains are invited, reflect the work of the troops and are of great mutual benefit. A big Rally has been planned for April 27 in the Boston Arena to raise funds for the maintenance of the Boston Headquarters. The rally will be divided into two distinct parts: first, separate exhibitions at booths, each in charge of a troop, and second, general demonstration of scouting activities with all the troops participating.

A little French orphan has been adopted by Girl Scouts of Winona, Miss.

Memphis, Tenn., Girl Scouts will act as "little mothers" to the children of Rozell school district so that the real mothers may attend Mothers' Club meeting.

## Girl Scout War Service Award

(Continued from Page 3)

profit equals not less than one and one-third cents per square foot, two credits; if it equals not less than two-thirds of a cent, one credit. For example: a troop of fifteen girls should have a garden of not less than 2,400 square feet. If the produce from this garden yields a profit, at the time it is harvested, of at least two cents a foot for the garden space, that is, \$48.00, three credits will be allowed, and the troop will be entitled to the War Service Badge. If the produce is worth less than \$48.00, but is worth at least \$32.00 (one and one-third cents a square foot), two credits will be given. If the produce is worth less than \$32.00, but is worth at least \$16.00 (two-thirds of a cent a square foot), one credit will be given.

### Food Conservation—

4. The equivalent of twenty hours service for each girl in the troop in community kitchen, or in any authorized community enterprise for the preservation of food and the elimination of waste. (One point.)
5. Six public or semi-public demonstrations of food conservation methods such as canning, bread making, use of food substitutes, etc., by a team of not fewer than four girls who have attained the standard of proficiency of the Canning Clubs, Department of Agriculture. (One point.)

### Thrift—

6. Fifty-dollar Liberty Bonds purchased with earnings or savings. (One point.)
7. Ten War Saving Stamps purchased with earnings or savings. (One point.)
8. Twenty-five dollars earned for any authorized war purpose, such as Y. M. C. A. or Y. W. C. A., French orphans, etc. (One point.)
9. Public meeting planned, organized and conducted by troop in interest of Liberty Loan or War Saving Stamps. (One point.)

### Labor Replacement—

10. The equivalent of twenty hours service for each girl in the troop in the care of young children in the home, day nursery, playground, etc., etc., provided that by such service an equal amount of adult time is released for volunteer or paid war work. (One point.)

### Americanization—

11. Public patriotic meeting planned, organized and conducted by troop in line with the America First Committee program. (One point.)

### Other Notable Service—

12. Any notable piece of war service performed by the troop, but not susceptible of classification in the above groups, on the individual merits of which the committee will pass.

N.B.—The committee will add additional points to the above as occasion arises.

## Additional Awards

For the first three points won a girl shall receive the pin. When she shall have done again all the work required for these three points and shall have added a new one, a fourth, from the list, she shall be privileged to wear the pin on a blue ribbon.

When she shall have done again all the work required under these four points and added another new one, a fifth, she shall be privileged to wear the pin on a red ribbon. When she shall have done again all the work under these five points, and added a new one, a sixth, she shall be privileged to wear the pin on a red, white and blue ribbon.

Further volume of service will be given individual consideration by the committee.

JULIETTE LOW,  
ANNE HYDE CHOATE,  
ABBY PORTER LELAND,  
Committee.

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## News of the Troops

One of the first good turns of the new Acorn Troop, South Hadley, Mass., was to outfit two needy little lads. The girls themselves made sweaters, caps, mittens, blouses and pajamas, and earned the money to buy the other garments. This troop is now working hard to earn uniforms.

National Headquarters was recently overwhelmed by a rainbow of fluttering pink and blue scarfs and radiant smiles, when Girl Scouts of the Leek and Watts Orphanage of Yonkers, N. Y., came in to get their scout pins. The troop includes nineteen scouts, with Miss Elizabeth Abrams as captain.

Girl Scouts of Franklin, Mass., have given to the local Red Cross chapter the sum of \$13.25, the profits of a successful dance. As a troop "good turn" these girls recently gave the local W. C. T. U. \$1.25 for a comfort bag for a sailor.

A Girl Scout Troop has been organized at Westport Point, Mass. The ceremony took place in the public library with Miss Emma Hall, commissioner from New Bedford, officiating. Delia Damon, an Eagle, with two other New Bedford scouts assisted in a demonstration of drilling, flag raising and giving the bugle calls. Mary H. Soule was elected captain.

Troop 19, Newark, N. J., has the pleasure of an honorary member, Dorothy Post, a victim of paralysis. Dorothy cannot share in many of the Scout sports, but she knows all about Scout spirit, especially that expressed in the ninth law.

A Thé Dansant given by Goldenrod Troop 6, of New Bedford, Mass., yielded a profit of \$100. The troop had long felt the urge for doing its good turn and gave this entertainment in order to buy materials for Red Cross work. Gladys M. Chapman, captain, has engaged an expert to instruct the girls in making surgical dressings. The entire amount will be used for this work.

A report from Mrs. C. D. Weirick, captain, tells us that Daisy Troop 2, Lebanon, Pa., realized \$75.00 at a play for the benefit of the Red Cross and collected \$52.70 for the Y. M. C. A. fund.

Winona, Miss., Girl Scouts gave a successful silver tea to aid in the support of the little French orphan whom they have adopted. The contributions amounted to \$16.00, which was augmented the next morning by a gift of over \$7.00 from the teachers and pupils of Purnell Hall. While the financial success was gratifying, the charming entertainment itself, and the added interest and enthusiasm it aroused for Girl Scouts, are hardly to be counted as second in value. Winona scouts are collecting old gloves to be used as linings for aviator's caps.

Girl Scout troops have been organized in the schools of Manassas, Va. Scouting is held in such high esteem in these schools that the honor roll and the Scout roll have become synonymous.

Members of Forget-me-not Troop Number 1, Sunbury, Pa., have taken a course in first aid under a registered trained nurse. The course included instruction in bandaging every part of the body.

The girls of Troop 11, Philadelphia, dressed a large doll as a Girl Scout and presented it to the Red Cross bazaar.

Girl Scouts of New Bedford, Mass., collected \$331.65 for the Y. M. C. A. war work.

Philadelphia has ten new troops of Girl Scouts organized in less than a month.

Three patrols of Girl Scouts have been enrolled at the Pape School, Savannah, Ga. The ceremony was made impressive by each girl laying her hand on the flag as the Scout promise was given.

Girl Scouts of Augusta, Ga., served at a patriotic luncheon given recently by the Federation of Women's Clubs. The prevalence of American flag decorations and the service of Girl Scouts in full scout regalia created a suitable atmosphere for the patriotic toast gracefully delivered by Mrs. L. S. Arrington, and responded to by several prominent men of the city.

Cincinnati Scouts have been indulging in many interesting hikes. One Saturday afternoon was spent in the Proctor and Gamble Soap and Crisco factory, another afternoon at the Water Works, for which the troops secured a special permit, and still another at the Art Museum. The Captain's organization is planning a prize contest for essays written about these trips.

Gentian Troop, Minneapolis, has made a record in many ways, camp fires as well as home fires. Its camping activities of last summer have been made up into a "camp book," a fascinating record of its first camp. It has helped to keep the home fires burning for two poor families, and a little French orphan, whom it has adopted. It has worked in Red Cross headquarters every week to such good purpose, that its work in bandage making has been specially recommended by the official supervisors. The girls furthered the Red Cross campaign by giving talks in their schools to awaken interest and have demonstrated food conservation by giving charming entertainments for war funds at which the refreshments were "conservation" cooked by themselves. Members of Gentian Troop were the first Minneapolis Girl Scouts to sign the food pledge.



